Bridged Network System

With Traffic Resiliency Upon Link Failure

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0041] A bridged network system (10, 10')is described comprising a plurality of nodes (N_1-N_7). Each node in the plurality of nodes is coupled to communicate with at least one other node in the plurality of nodes. The plurality of nodes comprise a bridge network between external nodes located externally from the plurality of nodes. Each node of the plurality of nodes is operable to perform the steps of receiving a packet (20, 20'), wherein the packet comprises a route indicator field, and responsive to the packet being received prior to a time of failure along a communication link between two of the plurality of nodes, transmitting the packet along a first route in the system to another node in the plurality of nodes. Conversely, each node of the plurality of nodes is also operable to perform the step of, responsive to the packet being received after a time of failure along a communication link between two of the plurality of nodes and in response to the route indicator field, transmitting the packet along a second route in the system to another node in the plurality of nodes, wherein the second route differs from the first route and is identified prior to the time of failure.